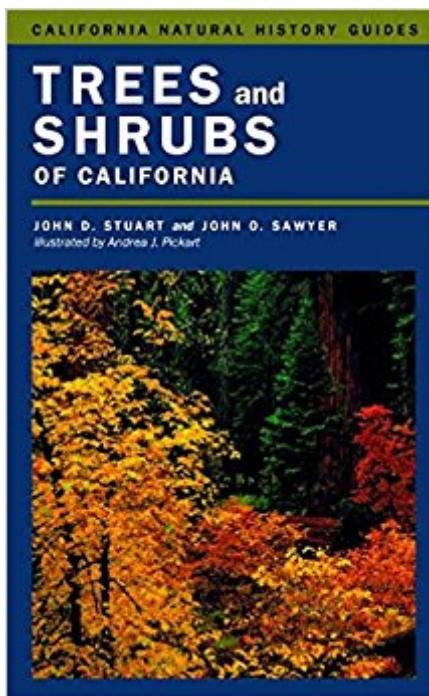


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# Trees And Shrubs Of California (California Natural History Guides)



## **Synopsis**

California's varied landscape is characterized by a spectacular abundance of plant life, including a magnificent variety of trees and shrubs. This is the first book to combine the trees and shrubs of California in one accessible field guide. *Trees and Shrubs of California* identifies and describes native California tree species and most common shrub species. The text is complemented by more than 200 beautiful line drawings, 300 range maps, and 40 color photographs. In their introduction, the authors discuss the dominant vegetation types, climates, principal landforms, and elevations of California's ecological regions. They explain the classification system and nomenclature used in the book, which includes both scientific and common plant names and is based on the 1993 edition of The Jepson Manual. The authors also provide a step-by-step explanation of how to use the dichotomous keys to identify plants and distinguish between trees and shrubs. This user-friendly field guide minimizes technical terms and includes a checklist, making it an invaluable resource on California's profuse vegetation.

## **Book Information**

Series: California Natural History Guides (Book 62)

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## **Customer Reviews**

"A comprehensive field guide to the woody plants of California's wildlands. Intended for both amateurs and professionals, it includes 200 line drawings, 300 range maps, and easy-to-use plant keys."--"Sunset magazine

"Finally a guide to the woody plants of wildland California! The easy-to-follow vegetative keys, revealing drawings, crisp color photos, and handy range maps combine to make this a beautiful, reader-friendly resource to the novice and the expert alike. Each species has a page of text, including notes on habitat, morphology, and economic importance."&#151;Michael Barbour, editor of California's *Changing Landscapes*"I love this book. It is warmly welcome as a guide for California's avid public, a public that includes natural history lovers, conservationists, consultants, agencies, and public and private land managers. It is useful, useable, packed with accurate information, and cannot help but assist us in the difficult job of preserving our natural heritage."&#151;Jake Sigg, President, California Native Plant Society

Too much information and not enough pictures. Pictures would help to more quickly identify the trees out in the field. If you're an arborist, this book might be good for you, but if you're a hiker that just wants to identify oaks and pines around you, keep looking. I REALLY would like to find something like *The Laws Field Guide to the Sierra* for my area of California.

Good reference book, but requires previous knowledge of plants. Photo illustrations are poorly reproduced B&W.

Great little reference for trees and shrubs. Easy to go-to a specific tree. It does more than just identify the tree. The pictures are very small and all in black and white for some reason.

Great buy

gave as a gift seemed nice

I bought this book for a class on Dendrology. I really like the key feature, it is very helpful. I bought this book from midtownscholarbookstore and they said it was "used-very good." I agree! It was brand new. I will definitely be buying books from them in the future. Great buy.

The advertisement for this book contained 4 references to the book being user-friendly, but I found it to be user un-friendly. Since it was published by the University of California, I was expecting something better. The publisher tried to cram too much information into a tiny book. Most of the other reviews were positive, so that's why I decided to buy it. The illustrations are poor, and it is very

terse and technical in its descriptions of plant life. The advertisement said it was suitable for novices and experts. In my opinion, it's only suitable for experts. The reason I bought this book is because I'm in training to be a landscape architect. The cost of returning this book would cost more than the book itself, so I'm going to have to donate it. It was a big waste of money for me. If you don't have a Master of Science degree in botany or biology, then don't buy it, you'll be disappointed just like I was.

This is the best field guide for California Trees and Shrubs on the market. It is an essential guide for anyone wanting to know native California trees and shrubs. I have had my tattered hardcover copy since 2002 and I still use it when I come upon a shrub I don't know. It takes a little time learning the key and the structure of the book, but once you have that down you should be able to ID all of the plants in the book. The book is divided into two sections, conifers and broad leaf trees, with a key for each. If you know the genus, such as manzanita, but not the species you can skip the key, look up manzanita in the index, and then try to ID the plant with the line drawings and the descriptions, which are detailed as to size of plant, leaf size and structure, stem features, inflorescences, flowers and fruit as well as habitat and range. The only drawback is about 5 to 10% of the plant species do not have line drawings. The book also has a remarks section for each plant which lists features such as closely related subspecies, medicinal uses and importance to wildlife. It also has 40 color photos of the plants described. I would highly recommend this book, and hopefully they will come out with a second edition adding about 30 to 40 more species and more line drawings.

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